

because I belong to the Legislature. I think it is something they should do. One other thing I want to bring up that so many of you people have listened to your constituents complaining about the people furnish you with energy. They ask you to cut down and then to turn right around and they raise the price back up to get just as much salary as you wanted in the first place. That is kind of what we are doing here. The economy is not down just entirely on account of people being laid off. If you notice the paper, in the World Herald a couple of weeks ago, people are putting more in the banks. They have got a little more faith than the government and so they are putting some in the banks and I don't think we should turn around and say, well now, you have saved so we are going to turn around and gouge you the 20 cent raise. I oppose this inflationary 20% raise.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would oppose the advancement of the bill at this time, for about three or four reasons. Number one, I think it is irresponsible in the manner it attempts to do this particular thing of setting the tax rate. How is it irresponsible? The bill says, in effect, look, we, the Legislature think the present system isn't working, that nobody is doing their job, so we are going to take that authority away from you just long enough to do what we perceive the job to be which is supposedly increasing taxes and then as soon as we have done this job we are going to give you back the responsibility, the authority, so on and so forth. If you are going to change the system because you think it isn't working on the other end, the Board of Equalization's system doesn't work, or you think it is too political, whatever your reasons, then change it open and honest. You want to set the rates over here, fine. Bring the authority to the Legislature now and for the future and do it with a specific system using your Revenue Committee which you have got and using a format such as an introduction of a bill just exactly the way you would do anything else if you think the present system is not working. That is the first reason. The second reason, I absolutely believe as much as anything that 20% is not necessary today, Wednesday, February 23, 1983, and I also absolutely believe just as strongly that by Monday, February whatever, next week, 20% won't cover the new problems that are going to be uncovered and dumped on this Legislature and that all you will have exercised was frustration and futility. I think there is going to be probably one of the bigger bombs that has occurred in this state between now and Monday and 20% isn't going to cover the cleanup from the nuclear fallout from this particular thing. Of course you know what I am talking about, and I am talking